

Roger Blackman: Lecturer in Creative Media; Supporting Statement and Person Specification

My teaching career began in 1996 at NWK College as a visiting professional and, having previously worked in the Youth Service and operated my own successful media production business for several years, it was natural progression for me to firstly teach part time and then in 2000, accept the offer of a full time position. Although an accomplished media producer, as I developed my teaching skills, I also widened my knowledge of associated subjects during the inception of the digital era – from reviving my drawing talents to cover storyboarding and animation, to teaching 3rd year BA Photography students digital design. I have consequently become highly experienced in teaching at all levels, including BTEC Introductory, First and National Diplomas, GCSE, AS/A2, HND, FD and BA. Within my remit and responsibilities, I have also worked closely with other departments, such as in embedding Key Skills, Foundation Studies, Learning Support for SEN, Aim Higher and Connexions.

Teaching experience includes Course Leader for Media and, at its inception, Course Leader for the BND Multimedia course. I managed the college's Media Projects department for one year, working with selected students in producing professional quality video programmes for local agencies and businesses, including the NHS, Employment Service and LendLease. Every course I have taught on has produced retention and achievement figures well above national benchmarks and I have been graded as Excellent in my last 4 teaching observations, also having received favourable comments from Ofsted Reports. My teaching and learning strategies are focused on student welfare, enrichment, team work and a fundamental objective that students are given opportunities to succeed at all levels. I strongly believe in using a foundation of knowledge for all the subjects I teach based on research and contextualizing. Practical methods range from simple exercises to sophisticated but easy to follow bespoke online tutorials – an approach that enables the classroom to become both an educational and industry focused environment, with innovative, enthusiastic and creative teaching producing students with the same values and responsibilities. My experience more specifically includes:-

- *Relevant, innovative, creative and highly committed teaching methods that focus on responsible student learning, progression and achievement. Subjects cover media, design and photography from levels 1-4.*
- *Experience in managing courses and resources, including capital bids, design and set up of teaching and learning areas, course reviews, internal and external verification, Ofsted inspection and timetabling. Writing of course materials and units for HND, Foundation Degree and BA.*
- *Vocational and enrichment work with students, including several years of administering external visits – organizing and leading the Pencil to Pixel Conference visits for five years, both in Paris and Prague).*
- *Many years experience in interviewing, recruiting and enrolling and, as a personal tutor covering welfare, individual learning and action plans, progression, work experience and UCAS applications.*
- *I was well known at my college and believe that I am an excellent communicator and team player as well as a strong individual, well liked and respected by colleagues - from teaching and management to support staff.*

A teacher should have a continuing commitment to improving subject knowledge for both the benefit of students and the quality of delivery. My membership of the IfL completion of the Certificate in Education, regular attendance and delivery of training courses and CPD record are clear evidence of this commitment. I also appreciate the importance of maintaining an interest in educational developments, such as recent changes to relevant AS/A2 level structures and the introduction of the new Creative and Media Diploma and Functional Skills.

My media business is active and I am currently working on projects that keep me up to date with modern methods – from writing copy for web sites to film production. My professional skills extend to personal interests, such as movies and photography and I am a keen sailor and motorcyclist (currently training to be an instructor) both of which I find as sources of inspiration and experience in teamwork, concentration and self motivation.

I am confident that I can deliver a challenging, stimulating and rewarding experience for students over a wide range of ability and subject areas as an integral part of what I believe to be my own values and flexibility, based on my experience, expertise, enthusiasm and highly contemporary approach to teaching.

Summary of Professional Skills:-

- Industry experience in all Media Production areas including local radio, TV studio and editing, graphic design and desktop publishing, music production. Employer/clients include the GLC, NHS, BBC, the Employment Service, Plaza Records, TVS and ITN.
- Over 12 years teaching experience covering Levels 1 - 5 in FE, including extensive experience in Course Leader and Personal Tutor roles. Certificate in Education.
- Experienced national and international student visit organizer and qualified mini bus driver (KCC approved)

Subject areas:-

- Subject areas include sound and video production (including pre and post production), Inter-active design, drawing development, 2D/3D animation (digital and traditional), graphic design (including motion graphics), website design, storytelling, scriptwriting, digital imaging, photography, podcasting, general media studies.
- Contextual study of film, radio, design, animation, television, advertising, marketing and journalism.

Computer software:-

- Final Cut Pro, Motion, DVD Studio Pro, Photoshop, In Design, Premiere, Flash, After Effects (basic), Director (basic), Illustrator (basic), Dreamweaver (basic), Maya (basic), Word, PowerPoint, sound and video codecs, image file formats, compositing, image capture. 'Secondary' applications such as iStop Motion, Flipbook, Garageband and FTP software